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## Reviews.

*Annual Report of the State Botanist of the State of New York.* (48 Regent's Report.) Charles H. Peck. 4to. Pp. 241. Plates A, 1-43. 1896.

The familiar but unfortunately too rare report of the State Botanist appears this time under a new form and as a special separate in order to accommodate a part of Professor Peck's work on the Edible Mushrooms of New York. The body of the work contains the usual report of plants new to the State, including 11 new species of Fungi (pp. 11-17), followed by a descriptive synopsis of the New York species of *Carex*, by E. C. Howe (pp. 20-104). But the most important portion of the work is the account of "Edible and Poisonous Fungi of New York" (pp. 105-238, 42 plates). After some general discussion of the subject there follow detailed descriptions of 63 edible species and four that are poisonous or unwholesome. Each species is illustrated with a colored plate. The demand for the report has been so great that the limited edition was rapidly exhausted. It is to be issued, however, in the usual octavo form of the reports of the State Museum and can be purchased from the State Librarian at Albany.

Mr. Peck's accuracy of description is too well known to need any commendation here. The plates, while rendered by the process of reproduction in a rather stiff form and lack of artistic spirit, are recognizable and will readily serve as a guide to the objects they represent. The plates of the morels and *Fistulina* are probably the poorest of the series, but these are fortunately not likely to be confused with anything else. In the absence of any work of the kind obtainable at a low price—Gibson's artistic volume being beyond the means of many—the present work will prove a real help in aiding the rapidly growing number of mycophagists in recognizing the edible species of woods and fields, and introduce the subject to many citizens who ought to know something of the valuable food supply that every year goes to waste in prodigious quantity.

L. M. U.

*Age of the Lower Coals of Henry County, Missouri.* David White. Bull. Geol. Soc. Am. 8: 287-304. Mr. 1897.

The correlation of these coals with those of other regions, is

made by means of an examination of the fossil flora. The species determined number 123: Fungi, 2; Ferns, 70; Calamariae, 14; Sphenophyllae, 5; Lepidodendrae, 13; Sigillariae, 6; Taeniophylleae, 2; Gymnosperms, 10; doubtful, 1.

It is of interest to note that the one species of doubtful classification is *Palaeoxyris* which is placed under Animalia (?). A table of distribution is given for such species as occur in other American coal basins, also tables showing distribution of the same or closely related species in Great Britain and Franco-Belgium.

The conclusions from such comparisons are that the coals in question are about the horizon of the Lower Kittanning of the bituminous series of the Marcy (D) coal of the northern anthracite field of eastern North America, the middle and upper coal measures of Great Britain and the upper zone of the Valenciennes series, the Geislantern beds of the Saarbrück series of the Rhenish coal regions in the upper part of the Schatzlar series and in the Radnitz series of central Bohemia.

A. H.

*An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*, from Newfoundland to the parallel of the southern boundary of Virginia, and from the Atlantic Ocean westward to the 102d meridian. By Nathaniel Lord Britton, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Botany in Columbia University and Director-in-Chief of the New York Botanical Garden, and Hon. Addison Brown, President of the Torrey Botanical Club. In three volumes. Volume II. Royal 8vo. Pp. 643. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1897. Price per volume, \$3.00.

The second volume of this admirable work, which has just been issued from the press, will be gladly welcomed by all those who have made the acquaintance of the first one. In accurate typography, as well as in the keys, descriptions and illustrative figures of the species, it is fully up to the high standard of its predecessor, so well and thoroughly reviewed by Dr. Rusby in the BULLETIN of September, 1896.

The families contained in it occur in the following order :

## CHORIPETALAE (continued) I 546

20. Portulacaceae	I	57. Euphorbiaceae	361
21. Caryophyllaceae	6	58. Callitrichaceae	381
22. Nymphaeaceae	41	59. Empetraceae	383
23. Ceratophyllaceae	46	60. Buxaceae	384
24. Magnoliaceae	47	61. Limnanthaceae	385
25. Anonaceae	49	62. Anacardiaceae	385
26. Ranunculaceae	50	63. Cyrillaceae	389
27. Berberidaceae	89	64. Ilicaceae	390
28. Menispermaceae	93	65. Celastraceae	393
29. Calycanthaceae	94	66. Staphyleaceae	396
30. Lauraceae	95	67. Aceraceae	396
31. Papaveraceae	98	68. Hippocastanaceae	400
32. Cruciferae	108	69. Sapindaceae	402
33. Capparidaceae	154	70. Balsaminaceae	403
34. Resedaceae	158	71. Rhamnaceae	405
35. Sarraceniaceae	159	72. Vitaceae	407
36. Droseraceae	160	73. Tiliaceae	413
37. Podostemaceae	163	74. Malvaceae	415
38. Crassulaceae	163	75. Theaceae	420
39. Saxifragaceae	169	76. Hypericaceae	427
40. Grossulariaceae	187	77. Elatinaceae	437
41. Hamamelidaceae	192	78. Cistaceae	439
42. Platanaceae	194	79. Violaceae	445
43. Rosaceae	194	80. Passifloraceae	457
44. Pomaceae	232	81. Loasaceae	458
45. Drupaceae	246	82. Cactaceae	460
46. Mimosaceae	254	83. Thymeleaceae	465
47. Caesalpinaceae	256	84. Elaeagnaceae	466
48. Krameriaceae	261	85. Lythraceae	468
49. Papilionaceae	262	86. Melastomaceae	473
50. Geraniaceae	340	87. Onagraceae	475
51. Oxalidaceae	344	88. Trapaceae	500
52. Linaceae	348	89. Haloragidaceae	500
53. Zygophyllaceae	351	90. Araliaceae	505
54. Rutaceae	352	91. Umbelliferae	508
55. Simarubaceae	354	92. Cornaceae	542
56. Polygalaceae	355		

## GAMOPETALAE 548-623

1. Clethraceae	548	9. Sapotaceae	595
2. Pyrolaceae	549	10. Ebenaceae	596
3. Monotropaceae	554	11. Symplocaceae	597
4. Ericaceae	556	12. Styraceae	598
5. Vacciniaceae	573	13. Oleaceae	600
6. Diapensiaceae	582	14. Loganiaceae	604
7. Primulaceae	584	15. Gentianaceae	606
8. Plumbaginaceae	594	16. Menyanthaceae	621

The two volumes now published afford satisfactory material for a fair judgment upon the claims of the Flora as a whole, and every student of the pteridophytes and anthophytes of the region covered by it cannot fail to admire its excellence and feel surprised at the large number of new species gleaned from fields already well explored. The promise is that its appearance will give a fresh and lasting impulse to the study of systematic botany not only within the geographical limits chosen, but in other portions of our country further south and west. Its moderate cost, in view of its great wealth of illustration, must bring it into general favor and use, even among those whose interest in the plant-world is not strictly or purely scientific; and the wide diffusion of such accurate knowledge is a thing of inestimable value.

The third volume, now in the printer's hands, will be issued at an early day, perhaps before the year closes, and will end with the *Compositae*, the family to which the highest place in the vegetable creation has been assigned.

THOS. C. PORTER.

### Proceedings of the Club.

TUESDAY EVENING, May 11, 1897.

In the absence of officers, Dr. N. L. Britton was called to the chair. There were 13 persons present.

Three new members were elected: Robert P. Leslie, George H. Payne, Miss Harriet M. Denison.

The Chairman of the Field Committee, Dr. John K. Small, reported three excursions held as announced well attended and productive of much interest.

The Club adopted the following resolutions presented by Dr. H. M. Richards, in memory of Dr. Gregory, the late honored professor of botany at Barnard College.

"WHEREAS, our esteemed fellow member Miss Emily L. Gregory is lost to us by death, therefore, it is

"*Resolved*, That in realization of our loss we express our deep sorrow for this sad event, at this untimely period when she was just about to enter upon a new era in her career as a teacher, to which we all, with her, had looked forward with happiest anticipations, and